

CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 May 2012 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM 2, HENDON TOWN HALL

Board Members:

Councillor Andrew Harper (Chairman)	Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Families
Councillor Helena Hart	Cabinet Member for Public Health
Robert McCulloch Graham	Director of Children's Service, LBB
Mark Strugnell	Deputy Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police
Dadia Conti	Children's Service Manager, Community Barnet
Jay Mercer	Deputy Director of Children's Service, LBB
Clare Stephens	NHS Clinical Commissioning Group lead
Judith Barlow	NHS Central London Community Healthcare- Barnet
David Byrne	Principal, Barnet and Southgate College
Jack Newton	Head Teacher, Grasvenor Infant School
Angela Trigg	Principal, London Academy
Tim Beach	Chair of Barnet Safeguarding Children Board Barnet/LBB

In attendance:

Flo Armstrong	Divisional Manager Youth Support Service
Karen Ali	Operational Manager (West/Central)
Donna Thornly	Family Nurse Programme Supervisor
Heather Storey	Strategy and Projects Officer

Apologies:

Alison Blair	NHS North Central London, Barnet Borough Director
Vivienne Stimpson	Children's Commissioning Manager, NHS
Jenny Gridley	Head Teacher, Oakleigh School

Item	Minutes	Actions
1	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 9 February 2012 were agreed as a correct record.</p> <p>Apologies were received from the UK Youth Parliament outgoing members, who were unable to attend due to examination commitments.</p> <p>An item as added to the agenda under AOB, in which RM-G would report back on the response to the recent OFSTED inspection.</p>	
2	<p>Positive for Youth</p> <p>Flo Armstrong and Karen Ali gave a presentation on the Positive for Youth agenda, highlighting the cross-policy and cross-services approach to the development of the new policy, with an important role for Youth Services. FA emphasised the importance of partnership working in carrying out the policy, particular attention was drawn to the shift of responsibility for IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance) from the LA to schools.</p> <p>This transfer of responsibility was discussed by the Board, with AT explaining that it represents a large potential loss to disadvantaged students, and that schools will have to find a tracking resource as well as providing the IAG itself, as schools will have to report on the destinations of students and at present there are a large number of 'not known's. It was noted that the council</p>	

	<p>is keen to position schools as well as possible to manage this, possibly including buying services back from the LA. David Byrne from Barnet & Southgate College drew the attention of the Board to the risk of students enrolling on inappropriate courses and then dropping out in higher numbers.</p> <p>FA explained that the Youth Offer Phase II involved reducing the level of funding for positive activities, she is looking to external partners to assist with this and also exploring the possibility of charging for some activities. There will be no reduction in front-line staff, but some non-frontline staff will be lost.</p> <p>A discussion took place around how this work should go forward, including the Raising the Participation Age policy. DC raised the issue of the availability of data for the 18-24 year olds, as CCIS information runs only to the 19th birthday. Cllr Helena Hart emphasised the need to create better relationships with SMEs and to lead by example to create better unemployment opportunities for young people. RM-G raised the point that it is also vital to ensure that young people are work-ready; JCP information tells us that there are jobs available, although it can be difficult to get good data from the JCP. It was agreed that the Youth Board should be asked about the opportunities from JCP. It was agreed that David Byrne from Barnet and Southgate College should attend the Youth Board. It was also agreed that an action should go forward to EMG regarding apprenticeships opportunities from the organisations represented at the Board.</p> <p>Jack Newton asked whether there was a level-2 provision gap, and FA agreed to send a summary on this topic as there has been an increase in this type of provision.</p>	<p>DB RM-G FA</p>
3	<p>Participation Strategy</p> <p>RM-G explained the strengths of participation in Barnet and that the strategy is now out of date and does not reflect what is actually being done. It was agreed that the plan should be reviewed by EMG, into a more practical living document. Cllr Harper suggested that EMG could learn from the work on the Health and Well Being Strategy, and that the group would welcome it becoming a partnership document. It was also noted that it must reflect vulnerable groups, including young carers and address working on the safeguarding agenda. FA suggested that the strategy should be taken to the recently re-established Young People's Participation Group.</p> <p>Mark Strugnell (Police) raised the need for the strategy to sit in line with the Children and Young People Plan, and attempt to deliver the objectives of the board.</p>	<p>RM-G</p>
4	<p>Young Carers</p> <p>A discussion of the Young Carers Strategy took place, in which it was agreed that this should be developed into a medium-term plan, within the Youth Support Service. It was agreed that a review of the old strategy (written in 2009) should be undertaken, and then developed into proposals and an action plan. The importance of hidden young carers was noted, particularly those caring for drug and alcohol dependent adults. It is expected that there are three to four times the number of young carers in Barnet than we already know about.</p> <p>It was suggested that a campaign should be aimed at adults, not children, in order to maximise identification. CS asked whether 'Young Carer' appears on the CAF checklist, it was agreed that it should and is to be checked with the CAF steering group. The mechanisms for identifying young carers in schools were discussed, and it was noted that typically a CAF would be initiated once a young carer was identified. All parties agreed that information sharing is vital in this issue.</p> <p>Data sharing issues surrounding young carers were discussed, regarding the confidentiality of the adult against the needs of the child being paramount. TB raised concerns from a safeguarding point of view, and reiterated the need to share information at the point of risk.</p>	<p>JM CS</p>

5	<p>Family Nurse Partnership</p> <p>Donna Thornly gave a presentation on the family nurse project, which has been running since 2007 in the UK, and for over thirty years in the USA, and is showing proven, positive outcomes. This is a three-year project, aiming to recruit one hundred pregnant young women, and work with them until the child reaches two years of age. Over this period it is likely that participants will have received 64 visits. There have been 62 referrals so far, through established pathways. Five have delivered so far, and 4 of those are breast-feeding, all had a healthy anti-natal period with only one admission. There are correlations with reduced child protection and safeguarding issues.</p> <p>Questions were raised regarding the criteria for participation in the pilot – it was noted that there is currently no flexibility on the age limit, relinquishing or gestation period. It was agreed that this would be discussed with the Department for Health.</p> <p>The Board was extremely pleased with this work and noted the risks associated with it.</p>	DT
6	<p>Troubled Families Update</p> <p>An update was provided by Jay Mercer, on the troubled families work being undertaken. It was noted that just under 1,000 families have been identified – only 587.5 (5/6 of 705) of these are funded by government. Interventions cost around £10,000 and £40,000 of this is to be paid upfront, as it is a largely outcomes based funding. JM is requesting 80% of the attachment fee upfront in order to complete the work in two years and a response is awaited regarding this.</p> <p>The teams have now been brought together, ranging from parenting work to much more complex work. There is greater flexibility and the CAF is being used at all levels. Cost-analysis of the programme is being undertaken by Loughborough University and Barnet has been invited to contribute. JM is also working on a costing tool and is seeking to electronically access the central databases.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that ‘Troubled Families’ is extremely loaded language; JM explained that this is only referred to in relation to the government programme and funding, and that within Barnet the programme is called ‘Family Focus’.</p>	
7	<p>The Future of CAMHS</p> <p>A paper was tabled on the future of CAMHS, which was discussed briefly and comments were requested in writing to Vivienne Stimpson, who sent her apologies.</p>	All members
8	<p>Arrangements for commissioning new schools</p> <p>It was decided that a sub-group of the CTB should meet to discuss this, Cllr. Harper will email members to facilitate this and will decide membership.</p>	Cllr. Harper
9	<p>AOB</p> <p>The Safeguarding Annual Report was requested at the next meeting of the CTB.</p> <p>An update was given by RM-G on the Ofsted report and resulting action plan, which covers three and six month recommendations. It was noted that an overall judgement of ‘good’ had been given, with 20 ‘good’ judgement and 2 ‘adequate’. Thanks were given for all support offered in this.</p>	TB
8	<p>Date of next meeting 13 September 2012, 2-4pm, COMMITTEE ROOM 2, HENDON TOWN HALL</p>	